





## WHY THEY DESERT.

## Good Reasons for the Great Defections From the Army.

## The "Post-Dispatch" Reporter-Recruit Helps Men to Desert.

## A Soldier Who Was About to Commit Suicide.

Fifty to Sixty Men Run Away From Jefferson Barracks Every Month—The Manner in Which They Make Their Escape—Changing Their Clothes in the Brush—Swimming the River to Liberty—Jumping Freight Trains and Taking to Skiffs—Statements and Good-Byes of the Deserters—An Interesting Letter—The Hardships of the Disoriented Drills—More Charges of Cruelty.

THE POST-DISPATCH reporter, who enlisted for the purpose of investigating soldier life at Jefferson Barracks, has been a witness to the desertions of many soldiers from the United States Army, to-day describes the hardships of disoriented drills, and furnishes individual cases of desertion, with reasons for leaving the service of Uncle Sam.

This chapter is probably the most pertinent and interesting of all the installments of the reporter's experience, which have so far been given to readers of the POST-DISPATCH. It is pretty well known that the publication of these exposures, which began in the last RUMBLEY POST-DISPATCH, has already had its effect on the treatment of the soldiers.

In two companies the company commanders have made an inspection of the food since Sunday and an improvement, not much to be sure, but enough to make a slight change, has been made in the bill of fare.

In Company A, a sergeant remarked that if he knew of any one giving any more military secrets away he would smash his head in with a base ball bat.

The POST-DISPATCH has been warmly thanked by persons interested in military affairs, and the gratitude of the recruits at the barracks is expressed in unbounded terms by them.

None of the officers have yet made public their impressions regarding the exposure, but some of them have privately shown that they fear an immediate investigation.

Once more as evidence of the favorable conditions under which this information was gained we print the discharge paper of our reporter, which shows the term of his service in the army:

ARMY OF THE U. S.  
To All Whom It May Concern:

KNOW YE, That Frank E. Woodward, a recruit of Capt. Geo. D. Wallace, Company (B) of the Infantry, Regiment of Mid Service, who enlisted the eighth (8th) day of June, One thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, to serve Five (5) years is hereby discharged from the Army of the U. S. O. No. 188, dated Headquarters of the Army of the U. S., Wash., D. C., August 16, 1899.

Said Frank E. Woodward is now in Minnesota, in the State of Minnesota, to 22 years of age, 5 feet 3 inches high, fair complexion, blue eyes, light hair, and by occupation when enlisted a clerk.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AT Jefferson Barracks, Mo., this nineteenth (19th) day of August in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine.

M. D. WINT,  
Capt., Cavalry, Commanding.

The following is to-day's contribution to the revelations concerning army life at Jefferson Barracks:

Disoriented Drills.  
The recruits at the barracks are given a little over two hours' drill in the foot movements and the manual of arms each day. In the morning we drilled from 8 o'clock to 9:45; in the afternoon from 2 o'clock to 3:45, and generally about twenty minutes before and after the regular drill.

The raw recruit is not given a carbine at once, but the first thing that he is required to learn is what are called the "setting up" exercises. These are given him for the purpose of loosening up his joints and making his body pliable and lithe. They also tend to expand the chest and strengthen the muscles. There are four of these exercises, and when a recruit is able to go through them all properly his muscles show a decided improvement.

The first exercise is for the purpose of throwing the shoulders back; the second for training the body to bend easily, and the third and fourth for expanding the chest and developing the muscles.

These exercises are supplemented by instructions regarding the execution of the facing, the right and left hand salutes, the balance step and a few of the simpler foot movements.

The balance step is taught for the purpose of teaching the principles of the direct step. In going through this exercise the body on one foot and the other foot from the front to rear. It is in reality being taught the first principles of walking.

The new recruits are formed into squads of four to twelve, each squad in charge of a non-commissioned officer, who is supposed to be thoroughly familiar with the drill. Frequently the recruits become bored and tired on account of some of the non-commissioned officers not understanding what they are talking about, and the next day the squad is changed, and the new squad is given the same drill. It is very aggravating sometimes for a recruit to be unable to tell which is the right or left foot, and not that it is a good policy to accelerate his memory by only one day's drill.

There were several German recruits in Company B and the non-commissioned officers were talking about them and looking at them with a peculiar expression on their faces. One of the platoon leaders said that the instructor would know no bonds. On one day I heard a sergeant address a German recruit who had been in this company only a few

weeks and could hardly speak English, as follows:

"You—ignorant squire, if you can't understand what I'm saying, you can't do it. I don't know what it is—your ignorant luteness came over here for any how and I'll bet I'll make you sorry you ever came here."

When there are more than four recruits being drilled they are generally counted into tens of four, and the marching and counter-marching. The principal trouble with some of them is to teach them to keep step, but the most of them are more or less intelligent.

I have seen a sergeant become so angry at a recruit for not keeping step that he ordered him to strike him and nearly knocked him down in the ranks.

After the recruit can go through the setting-up exercises and is able to make the facing and march properly, he is supposed to be eligible to become a member of an armed squad, and a carbine and cartridge-box are issued to him. On receiving these his first duty is to get them cleaned up. The carbine is almost invariably covered with rust and the belt is generally cracked and wrinkled. There is always a good day's work in making them presentable and at the recruits' camp, some of them present a very handsome appearance.

In cleaning up the carbine the first thing that is done is to take off the piece of cloth which is used to put a polish on the metal work. The stock is then cleaned with a brush and the metal parts are polished with a piece of cloth.

Each metal part of the carbine is served in a similar manner, and after the carbine is cleaned up it is used to put a polish on the metal work. The stock is then cleaned with a brush and the metal parts are polished with a piece of cloth.

The first drilling with the carbine is in the form of a drill, and the recruits are drilled in the manual being explained in the tactics. In Company B we had a sergeant who was very particular in the manner in which the recruits were drilled, and he was very particular in the manner in which the recruits were drilled.

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In this respect were very gentlemanly fellows, both of whom had served in the navy. They deserted after I had been there about three weeks.

"We're going to skin out to-night," one of them said, and we got our clothes in the brush down by the railroad tracks.

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and sentenced to five years imprisonment at the Ft. Leavenworth Military Prison in preference to being under the slave of the person who was in power at Jefferson Barracks.

It seems incredible, and in fact horrible, that men who are in the hands of the United States Army, should be treated in this manner.

There are men at Jefferson Barracks who have committed crimes and who have served years in prison, but they speak in glowing terms of the prison life in comparison to life at Jefferson Barracks.

FRANK E. WOODWARD.

Letter From a Deserter.

To the Editor of the Post-Dispatch:

Having read the trials and experience of the POST-DISPATCH reporter as a recruit at Jefferson Barracks, I wish to say that I know they are not exaggerated in the least. Their truth I can vouch for by my own experience at Columbus Barracks, Ohio, where recruits are treated in a similar manner.

I include the commissioned officers, for the treatment of recruits is the same. I am supposed to investigate and know what transpires in and about their company's quarters, but I am not allowed to go into the company's affairs, they leave it to the commissioned officers.

I have seen men taken from their barracks at night and put into the guard-house under the least suspicion of crime. I have seen men put into the guard-house and sentenced to a court-martial on ten days' and \$100 fine.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1899.

Subscribers going away from the city during the summer are requested to send notice of the change of address to this office, so that the paper can be sent to them regularly.

Weather forecast for twenty-four hours, commencing at 8 a. m. to-day, for Missouri: Warmer; fair weather; cooler to-morrow.

If the New York committee really wants to find a good site for the World's Fair it should come to St. Louis.

ONE week from to-day the fifth season of the only successful permanent Exposition in this country will begin.

This enthusiasm which will tell most in securing the World's Fair for St. Louis will be expressed in the form of liberal subscriptions to the guarantee fund.

The standing army of this free country is in the nature of a disgrace when its chief work is the production and maintenance of petty tyrants in shoulder straps.

SECRETARY BLAINE is playing a big, beautiful bluff game in Behring's Sea, and there is a big, beautiful pot in it. He evidently counts on England's backing him up in the game for a share in the pot.

It is to be hoped that some of the "awful green" deputies to whom Grain Inspector BURKS refers so feelingly will ripen some by November 1. It wouldn't hurt Mr. BURKS himself to be subjected to a little artificial forcing.

It is astonishing but true that even a Missouri Congressman has been found who did not know that Lake Michigan is in the valley of the St. Lawrence, and who was under the impression that Chicago is a Mississippi Valley city.

AFTER learning that they could not enforce the grain inspection law on and after September 1 the Railroad Commissioners decided not to attempt it. This yielding to the inevitable was more wise than graceful on the Commissioners' part.

NO ARGUMENT before Congress in favor of St. Louis as the location of the World's Fair will be worth anything unless every dollar of the local guarantee fund is subscribed. Citizens of St. Louis should bear this in mind when they are called upon for subscriptions by the Finance Committee.

THERE is a report that Minister DOUGLASS is not acceptable to Gen. HIPPOLYTE as the representative of the United States because he has negro blood in his veins. What is that story about the row between the pot and kettle? It seems to be strikingly applicable in this case.

It appears that when a citizen becomes a soldier of the United States he forfeits the rights of trial before imprisonment for alleged offenses and of appeal from the lowest to the highest authority. At least, that is the theory on which the non-commissioned officers of the army act in their treatment of private soldiers.

The postponement of the enforcement of the grain inspection law until November 1 will deprive Grain Inspector BURKS and his deputies of their salaries for two months, but it may enable them to educate themselves to some degree of salary-earning capacity. Their adversity has the sweet and excellent uses for the grain trade of St. Louis.

The simple story of life at Jefferson Barracks told by the Post-Dispatch's reporter-recruit gives a better view of the true condition of United States military service than all the formal investigations that have been instituted. It also gives valuable hints to Congress as to the direction an investigation should take and the best methods of pursuing one to get good results.

The tooting of the sea sirens in Canada over the Behring's Sea seizures will not disturb the peaceful slumbers of statesmen in this country or England. If the British authorities choose to wink at the Administration's protection of the seal monopoly for a share in the profits, the growls of a few Canadians will not trouble them. But the Dominion's protest is beginning to look ridiculous anyhow, in view of the report that the British vessels seized are mostly owned by Americans.

protest against the backing of a monopoly scheme by this Government should come from Americans.

MANDERSON'S GRAB.

THE result of repeated medical examinations of Senator MANDERSON between the time he was wounded in 1884 and the rearing of his pension in 1889 was a series of unanimous and uniform refusals of the medical examiners to rate his pension above \$15 a month. When it was raised by TANKER to the total disability rate, and the rearing dated back to 1884 without another medical examination and in contempt of all the previous medical reports of his case, Senator MANDERSON pocketed the big war of back pay without asking for another of the medical examinations which had so often crushed his efforts to get an increase of pension. But since so much fuss has been made about it he pretends to demand another medical examination, while declaring that he did not seek a re-rating. Having obtained at last what he long has sought he proposes to keep it, if on a final offer with TANKER's assistance a favorable medical report can be cooked up to suit his purpose. No doubt they can fix it, but the robust health he has enjoyed and the large fortune he has acquired since 1884 will forever stamp as a lie any medical report that he was totally disabled in 1884. He rerated himself much lower in public estimation when he pocketed that grab.

THE HEART OF THE VALLEY.

It is admitted by everyone outside of what may be called the local circles within the influence of New York and Washington that in order to give foreigners the best view of this country, to afford the most convenience to the greatest number of Americans and to confer the greatest benefit on the country at large the World's Fair should be held in the West. It is also admitted that the part of the West in which the Fair should be held is the Immense, rich, prosperous Mississippi Valley. Even Chicago urges the overwhelming reasons in favor of the Valley, and by a monstrous stretch of imagination and the great Valley's boundaries declares that Chicago is the metropolis of this magnificent region.

Chicago's claim is absurd and her own line of argument leads inevitably to St. Louis as the proper location of the exposition. This city is the real metropolis and the actual center of the Mississippi Valley. It is the heart of its commercial activity, and is situated on the main vessel of the great arterial river system which pierces all parts of it and links them with the Gulf. In no other location can the exposition of the arts and industrial products of the world be brought into direct rail and water communication with so much of the country.

As a matter of self-interest every city, town and section of country touched by the rivers of the Valley should favor St. Louis. They will have the temporary benefit of river transportation to the Fair and the permanent benefit of the impetus which the influx of millions of visitors will give to all commercial and industrial interests, and particularly to river traffic. Trips up and down the Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Illinois, Arkansas and Red Rivers and kindred streams will be among the most popular ways of seeing the country. The increased passenger and freight service immediately due to the Fair, with the vastly increased trade resulting from it, cannot fail to push river traffic twenty years ahead of its present condition.

The Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners have had to fall back from one untenable position they took in the controversy they were forcing on the Merchants' Exchange. It is to be hoped that between now and November cool reflection will convince them that they began wrong, and that there are other positions which they took incorrectly and improperly and which they should not hesitate to abandon. They should distinctly retract and disavow their declared intention of running the grain inspection under the dictation of other State officers or Congressmen as a mere foraging ground for political dependents or grating padlocks in the grain trade. The law calls for impartial experts, irrespective of party, and the Commissioners charged with the enforcement of the law should not be the first to pervert its provisions and conspicuously violate its intent.

Mr. DREW thinks that the French Exposition in commemoration of the French Revolution of 1789 has brought so much money into France, and so stimulated the industries and the prosperity of the country, that it has made Republican government stronger than ever in the confidence and affection of the French people. The hostility of the monarchs and their refusal to take any notice of the Republic's official commemoration of the overthrow of dynastic government in France, seems to have helped to make the Republic's Exposition the most successful one France ever had, and incidentally the Republic itself has gained strength at home and respect abroad by displacing the royalties and glorifying the bloody birth of popular sovereignty in the Old World.

NEITHER a Union soldier nor a colored man was allowed on the Virginia Republican ticket. From MAHONS down every nominee was a Confederate soldier, nominated on his war record. The hand played "Dixie" when the nominations were announced, and the platform declared that help should be given to poor

ex-Confederates and their widows and orphans. But instead of making the welkin ring with warlike cries that the Confederate Brigadiers are again in the saddle and marching on Washington, the Republican organs are all joining in the "Dixie" chorus and practicing the old rebel yell.

PRECISELY the same constitutional inhibitions in Illinois and New York as in Missouri forbid the World's Fair Committee to depend on State or municipal appropriations, and make it necessary for them to raise by private contributions the guarantee fund which is a condition precedent to the location of the Fair in any city. Missouri may not have as many millionaires as New York or Illinois, but the prospect is that she will raise an adequate guarantee fund about as soon as either of those States.

THERE is as yet no reason to doubt that St. Louis will beat New York and Chicago as far in getting up a World's Fair fund as she has heretofore beaten them in creating the most spacious and beautiful Exposition buildings and Fair Grounds on this continent and in creating the only permanently self-sustaining Fair and Exposition of national celebrity now in existence.

The President and Workmen.

From the Philadelphia Times. It is certainly unfortunate for President Harrison that his accepted attitude toward the workmen is such that the labor organizations of Indianapolis refused the invitation to turn out and welcome him back to his old home.

With the mills and factories of highly protected products falling in unusual numbers; with the wages of labor reduced in nearly all lines of industry, and with monopoly combines rapidly multiplying to increase the cost of the necessities of life, it is not surprising that workmen are unwilling to endure the fruits of the administration that has been established.

There is much food for presidential reflection, while receiving the paternal homage of old friendships in Indianapolis, in the fact that the workmen are conspicuous by their absence in the welcome. The workmen are the supreme power of the Republic, and when they feel the effect of grinding taxes and reduced wages there is revolution in the air. It is in the power of President Harrison to remedy this unpromising condition by denouncing just laws and the overthrow of monopoly. Will he do it?

New York and the World's Fair.

From the New York World. Here is an interesting and suggestive calculation with respect to the World's Fair Guarantee Fund: Let twenty-five of our richest men give \$100,000 each—total, \$2,500,000; let fifty very rich men give \$50,000 each—total, \$2,500,000; let one hundred rich men give \$25,000 each—total, \$2,500,000; let two hundred rich men give \$12,500 each—total, \$2,500,000. This would make in all exactly \$10,000,000. The people will pay the rest in entrance fees. And we have the men amply able to do this if they are alive to the welfare of New York and the country.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. C. S.—St. Louis is not in St. Louis County. XXX.—There is no premium on a 50-cent piece of 1845.

CRANK.—A batter may change from right to left of plate at any time.

FLORENCE.—You can buy the game and puzzle at any large toy store.

SUBSCRIBER.—If two men marry sisters it makes no difference.

SUBSCRIBER.—The St. Louis Cable & Western Railway was formally opened to the public.

DICE.—The law concerning dice, cards, pool, etc., in saloons will not go into effect until November 1.

BLONDE.—Greatest care should be exercised if you persist in the foolish practice. The city which the Olympic Theater has been rebuilding is the last of four.

READER.—The population of Boston, Mass., on October 31, 1888, was 415,000 and St. Louis' population on November 30, 1888, was 400,000.

SPORT.—1. The quail season in Illinois opens on September 1 and ends September 15. 2. The prairie chicken season opens September 15 and ends November 1.

CORRESPONDENT.—Legitime is pronounced as "legitimate" and not "legitimate."

SUBSCRIBER.—There is a premium of 10 cents on a 50-cent piece of 1845.

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THE SILVER MEN'S CONVENTION.

Messrs. Chas. D. Moore and A. B. Ewing Favor It Strongly.

While the work preliminary to the National Silver Men's Convention is progressing smoothly those actively engaged in it feel strongly encouraged to have others interested in it and acquainted with the subject come to participate in the movement. There were two such experiences this morning. Mr. C. D. Moore of the Granite Mountain and Bismarck, who has been traveling constantly for some time, but who has now returned home to remain through the season, announced his intention of attending.

"I have been traveling all the time," he said, "and my attention has only been called to the matter by Mr. Ewing. You can say for me that I will accept my appointment on the general committee, and with the movement from beginning to end, and will do everything in my power in every way to forward the cause. I am certain we will win the day, and you can depend on all the assistance I can render."

"You can depend," he said, "on my doing everything in my power to forward it. I have been traveling all the time, and my attention has only been called to the matter by Mr. Ewing. You can say for me that I will accept my appointment on the general committee, and with the movement from beginning to end, and will do everything in my power in every way to forward the cause. I am certain we will win the day, and you can depend on all the assistance I can render."

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## LOW PRICES "RESULT OF CHEAP RENTS"

ON  ON

Fourth St.

A detailed black and white illustration of a collection of ceramic or porcelain items. The central piece is a large, rounded jar with a lid, decorated with a repeating geometric pattern and a floral motif of leaves and grapes. To its right is a pitcher with a similar design. In the foreground, there is a small jar and a small bowl, both also featuring the same decorative elements. The background shows a large, shallow bowl or plate, partially visible, with a similar pattern. The overall style is that of a vintage catalog or advertisement illustration.

**Fast Week of Great Reduction Sale.**


ice Decorated Chamber Sets for.....	\$ 1.50
ice Decorated Chamber Sets for.....	\$2.50
ice Decorated Chamber Sets for.....	\$3.00
legant Decorated Chamber Sets from.....	\$5.00 to \$20.00
ice Decorated Dinner Sets, 112 pieces, for.....	\$7.50
ice Decorated Combination Dinner Sets.....	\$13.50
legant China Combination Dinner Sets.....	\$19.50 to \$30.00
legant Haviland's China Decorated Combination Dinner Sets.....	\$45.00
ice Decorated Porcelain Bone Plates.....	75c per set

lassware..... At half the price asked elsewhere.

Everything else low in proportion.

**A. WITTMAR.**

505 N. Fourth Street, Near Washington Avenue.



**DONK'S DOMESTIC**  
TRADE MARK

AUGUST F. DONK.  
EDMUND C. DONK.

All Weighers Certificates for 12  
"DONKS DOMESTIC" bear our TRADE MARK.

Buy Your **WITH RACITE** Now

**ANTHONY**  
**Donk Bros & Co.**  
 316 OLIVE ST.  
 TELEPHONE 1016.



**MANTELS**  
Architects, Builders and Owners  
will find unique, tasteful and elegant  
patterns at  
**RIDGE & BEACH MFG CO.**  
503 South Main Street.

**DRINK ENNESS**

**AMUSEMENTS.**  
**OLYMPIC.**  
To-Night, during the week, Matinee  
Saturday.  
**Dockstader's ★**  
**★ Minstrels.**  
Monday, September 2-J. K. Emmet.

**Or the Liquor Habit Festively Cured by Administering Dr. Haines' Golden Specific**  
It can be given in a cup of coffee or tea, or in articles of food, without the knowledge of the patient. It is a potent, solitary harmless, and will effect a permanent and radical cure of the habit, and will not injure the system or render one an alcoholic wreck. IT NEVER FAILS! It is a safe and certain remedy in modern medicine, and one who have taken Golden Specific in moderate doses, know their knowledge, and to-day believe they are cured of their habit. It is made of purest ingredients, and is sold by Dr. H. A. Alexander, Cor. Broadway and Olive, and by all the Druggists and Dispensaries. PREPARED BY DR. H. A. ALEXANDER, 1001 Broadway, New York. Sole Agents, Wm. C. Wolff-Wilson Drug Co., 5, S. Market St., Los Angeles. 46 page book free.

**DIED.**  
BAGLEY—Tuesday, August 27, at 11:40 p. m., of a lingering illness, THOMAS F. BAGLEY, aged 62 years and 10 months.

Funeral will take place from his late residence, 106  
and a half South street, to Cathedral Church, Friday  
morning, August 30, at 9 o'clock, from thence to  
Catholic Cemetery. Friends of the family are re-  
spectfully invited to attend.

**KIRCHER**—Wednesday morning, **AWA MARIA**,  
widow of Charles E. Kircher, aged 38 years 9 months,  
deceased from family residence, 3925 North Twen-  
th street, on Saturday, August 31, at 2 o'clock  
p. m., thence to Calvary Cemetery.

**LACKY**—August 28, 1898, **MARGARET E.**, be-  
died wife of Edward Mackay, aged 53 years.  
Funeral will take place at 9 o'clock, a. m., Fri-  
day, August 30, from the family residence, 1932  
North Twentieth street, to Catholic Church, Fri-  
day morning, August 31, at 9 o'clock, from thence  
to Calvary Cemetery. Friends are invited to at-  
tend.

**LENDIVILLE**—August 27, at 8 p. m., **MAURICE**

**MISS EDNA'S SERVICE**  
WILL OPEN  
**September 23, at No. 3542 Washington av.**  
For terms and further particulars, apply at above number after September 8.

**MOUND CITY COMMERCIAL COLLEGE,**  
328 Chestnut St., St. Louis, Mo.  
Practical teachers are at the head of our book-keeping, penmanship, mathematics, English and shorthand departments. Building Association and other improved systems of book-keeping are taught. Day and night sessions begin September 2.  
For circulars, address Jos. F. Woelfel, Secretary.

**AMUSEMENT NOTES.**  
"An's Jubilee will be celebrated at Kensington Garden to-morrow night. A most entertaining programme of specialties and a grand

tion. The spectacle now commences at  
Hockstader's Minstrels are giving a rattling  
entertainment, full of music and merriment,  
and good and dances at the Olympia.  
"Con Conroy & Co." keeps the people at  
the "alternating between laughter and  
sorrow, but laughter has the best of it."  
"Donna Juanita" is making a good success  
in second and last week at Schanassaider's.

**You Can Learn French**  
In ten easy  
lessons by  
mailing the large class of readers of the  
SUNDAY POST-DISPATCH.

Until further notice the cars of  
the People's Railway Co. will run  
on 12th st. from Chouteau av. to  
4th and Pine.

**CHAS. GREEN,**  
President.  
St. Louis, July 26, 1899.

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